

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/801,672

Examiner

Kieu D. Vu

Applicant(s)

SUGIYAMA ET AL.

Art Unit

2173

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to The amendment filed on 12/23/05 and the telephone interview on 01/20/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-7, 9-11, 13-22, 24-30, 39-40 (renumbered as 1-28).
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: ____.

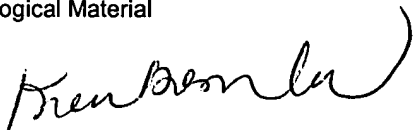
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date ____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date ____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other ____



Examiner's Amendment

1. This Office Action is in response to the Amendment filed on 12/23/05 and the telephone interview on 01/20/06.
2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
3. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Applicant's Representative William Niessen on 01/20/06.
4. The claims have been amended as follows:

The following amendment and listings of the claim will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Claim 1: canceled

Claim 2. An image information processing device, comprising:

a display;

an image information storage;

a display controller for causing the display to display sets of detailed information and identifier images of a plurality of sets of image information stored in an image information storage region in the image information storage, in which the identifier images identify at least parts of the plurality of sets of image information; and

an interlinked display controller for, when a display order of either the detailed information or the identifier images is changed on a display screen of the display,

Art Unit: 2173

setting a display order of the other so that the detailed information and identifier images of the plurality of sets of image information are displayed in an identical display order in rows showing the detailed information and the identifier information respectively;

further comprising an input device,

wherein:

the display controller includes an extract display controller for extracting detailed information according to an input from the input device, setting detailed information not extracted to a non-selectable state, and causing the display to effect a non-selectable display representing said state,

the extract display controller causes the display to display the detailed information extracted, in such a manner that the detailed information extracted is visually more recognizable than the detailed information not extracted;

the image information storage has a plurality of image information storage regions;

the display controller includes a combined display controller for causing the display to display in combination the sets of detailed information and identifier images of the plurality of sets of image information stored in the plurality of image information storage regions; and

the set of detailed information and identifier images are respectively displayed in different display areas.

Claim 3. The image information processing device as defined in claim 2,

wherein:

a management table, in which a common display order between the detailed information and the identifier images is set, is included for each set of image information stored in the image information storage region; and

the interlinked display controller rewrites the display order in the management table in accordance with a preceding change in one of the display orders and changes the other display order effected by the display in accordance with the rewritten display order.

Claim 4. The image information processing device as defined in claim 2,

wherein the detailed information includes a plurality of items about this information,

said device further comprising an item-specific rearranger for rearranging the display order of the sets of detailed information on the display screen of the display according to information shown by the plurality of items.

Claim 5. The image information processing device as defined in claim 2, further comprising an input device,

wherein:

the display controller includes an extract display controller for extracting at least one of the identifier images according to an input from the input device and causing the display to display the extracted identifier image.

Art Unit: 2173

Claim 6. The image information processing device as defined in claim 5,

wherein:

the extract display controller includes a direct selector for enabling the detailed information displayed by the display controller to be selected by the input device , so as to select an identifier image to be extracted.

Claim 7. The image information processing device as defined in claim 5,

wherein:

the extract display controller includes a search process for extracting at least one of the identifier images according to search conditions entered through the input device.

Claim 8 canceled

Claim 9. The image information processing device as defined in claim 2,

wherein:

the extract display controller causes the detailed information extracted to be displayed in or near a first position in a row showing the detailed information and the detailed information not extracted to be displayed in or near a last position in the row showing the detailed information.

Claim 10. The image information processing device as defined in claim 2,

wherein:

the extract display controller includes a direct selector for enabling the detailed information displayed by the display controller to be selected by the input device , so as to select detailed information to be extracted.

Claim 11. The image information processing device as defined in claim 2,
wherein:

the extract display controller includes a search process for extracting detailed information according to search conditions entered through the input device .

Claim 12: canceled.

Claim 13. The image information processing device as defined in claim 2,
wherein:

the combined display controller causes the identifier images of the image information stored in different image information storage regions to be displayed in different colors, wherein each different color corresponds to a particular image information storage region.

Claim 14. The image information processing device as defined in claim 2,
wherein:

the detailed information to be displayed includes identifier information by which the image information storage region where the image information is originally stored can be identified.

Claim 15. The image information processing device as defined in claim 2, further comprising a display area in the display for providing display areas for the detailed information and the identifier images,

wherein:

the display controller causes the detailed information to be displayed in a detailed information display area and the identifier images to be displayed in an identifier image display area.

Claim 16. The image information processing device as defined in claim 2,

wherein:

the identifier image is a scaled-down image of the image information.

Claim 17. An image information processing method, comprising:

a detailed information and identifier image display step of causing a display to display sets of detailed information and identifier images of a plurality of sets of image information stored in an image information storage region, in which identifier images identify at least parts of the plurality of sets of image information;

an interlinked display step of:

when a display order of either the detailed information or the identifier images is changed on a display screen of the display, setting a display order of the other so that the detailed information and identifier images of the plurality of sets of image information

are displayed in an identical display order in rows showing the detailed information and the identifier information respectively,

wherein the detailed information and identifier image display step further includes extract display steps of extracting the detailed information, setting detailed information not extracted to a non-selectable state, and causing the display to effect a non-selectable display representing said state, and wherein the extract display steps cause the display to display the detailed information extracted in such a manner that the detailed information extracted is visually more recognizable than the detailed information not extracted;

storing the plurality of sets of image information in a plurality of image information storage regions;

causing the display to display in combination the sets of detailed information and identifier images of the plurality of sets of image information stored in the plurality of image information storage regions; and

causing the set of detailed information and identifier images to be respectively displayed in different display areas.

Claim 18. The image information processing method as defined in claim 17,

wherein:

a management table, in which a common display order between the detailed information and the identifier images is set, is provided for each set of image information stored in the image information storage region; and

in the interlinked display step, the display order in the management table is rewritten in accordance with a preceding change in one of the display orders, and the other display order effected by the display is changed in accordance with the rewritten display order.

Claim 19. The image information processing method as defined in claim 17,

wherein the detailed information includes a plurality of items about this information,

said method further comprising an item-specific rearrange step of rearranging the display order of the sets of detailed information on the display screen of the display according to information shown by the plurality of items.

Claim 20. The image information processing method as defined in claim 17,

wherein:

the detailed information and identifier image display step includes an extract display step of extracting at least one of the identifier images and causing the display to display the extracted identifier image.

Claim 21. The image information processing method as defined in claim 20,

wherein:

the extract display step includes a direct select step of enabling the detailed information displayed by the detailed information and identifier image display step to be directly selected, so as to select an identifier image to be extracted.

Claim 22. The image information processing method as defined in claim 20,

wherein:

the extract display step includes a search step of extracting at least one of the identifier images according to search conditions entered.

Claim 23 canceled .

Claim 24. The image information processing method as defined in claim 17,

wherein:

the extract display step causes the detailed information extracted to be displayed in or near a first position in a row showing the detailed information and the detailed information not extracted to be displayed in or near a last position in the row showing the detailed information.

Claim 25. The image information processing method as defined in claim 17,

wherein:

the extract display step includes a direct select step of enabling the detailed information displayed by the detailed information and identifier image display step to be selected directly, so as to select detailed information to be extracted.

Claim 26. The image information processing method as defined in claim 17,

wherein:

the extract display step includes a search step of extracting the detailed information according to search conditions entered.

Claim 27. The image information processing method as defined in claim 17,

wherein:

the detailed information and identifier image display step includes the combined display step of causing the display to display in combination the sets of detailed information and identifier images of the plurality of sets of image information stored in a plurality of image information storage regions.

Claim 28. The image information processing method as defined in claim 17,

wherein:

the display further includes the step of providing display areas for the detailed information and the identifier images; and
the detailed information and identifier image display step causes the detailed information to be displayed in a detailed information display area and the identifier images to be displayed in an identifier image display area.

Claim 29. The image information processing method as defined in claim 17,

wherein:

the identifier image is a scaled-down image of the image information.

Claim 30. A computer readable storage medium storing an executable program causing a computer to execute:

a detailed information and identifier image display process of causing a display to display sets of detailed information and identifier images of a plurality of sets of image information stored in an image information storage region, in which identifier images identify at least parts of the plurality of sets of image information; an interlinked display process of, when a display order of either the detailed information or the identifier images is changed on a display screen of the display, setting a display order of the other so that the detailed information and identifier images of the plurality of sets of image information are displayed in an identical display order in rows showing the detailed information and the identifier information respectively;

wherein the detailed information and identifier image display process includes an extract display process of extracting the detailed information, setting detailed information not extracted to a non-selectable state and causing the display to effect a non-selectable display representing said state, wherein the display is caused to display the detailed information extracted in such a manner that the detailed information extracted is visually more recognizable than the detailed information not extracted; and

wherein the executable program further causes:

storing the plurality of sets of image information in a plurality of image information storage regions;

causing the display to display in combination the sets of detailed information and identifier images of the plurality of sets of image information stored in the plurality of image information storage regions; and

causing the set of detailed information and identifier images to be respectively displayed in different display areas.

Claims 31-38 are canceled.

Claim 39. The image information processing method as defined in claim 17, wherein the detailed information and identifier image display step further includes:

causing the identifier images of image information stored in different information storage regions to be displayed in different colors, wherein each color corresponds to a particular image information storage region.

Claim 40. The computer readable medium of claim 30, wherein the executable program stored thereon for providing a detailed information and identifier image display process further causes:

causing the identifier images of image information stored in different information storage regions to be displayed in different colors, wherein each color corresponds to a particular image information storage region.

Art Unit: 2173

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kieu D. Vu. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thu from 7:00AM to 3:00PM at 571-272-4057.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca, can be reached at 571-272-4048.

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

571-273-8300

and / or:

571-273-4057 (use this FAX #, only after approval by Examiner, for "INFORMAL" or "DRAFT" communication. Examiners may request that a formal paper / amendment be faxed directly to them on occasions).

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Kieu Vu

AU 2173

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kieu Vu', is written over the printed name and art unit number.